dance at the turn of the century. More recently the late Reverend Hubert Sheehan, OSB of St. Anselm's College collected material from Black Brook Cedar Bog in Manchester and before this in 1935, Dr. Maurice Provost of Vero Beach, Florida, then a student at St. Anselm's College, discovered another stand from which he collected specimens. The authors of this paper singly or together have now visited both of these stations and in addition have found *Rhododendron* in one other locality within the confines of Manchester. At least 2 of these 3 colonies probably have been separate for a long time. The other 2 occur in distant parts of the same swamp and quite possibly were joined 60 years ago.

With one exception (the Albany station on Mt. Chocorua) we have succeeded in relocating all of the New Hampshire stations listed by Knowlton loc. cit. The evidence is reasonably good in this instance that there was a colony on Mt. Chocorua (3) but from the drastic changes that we have noted taking place in other stands as a result of lumbering operations, swamp-flooding, browsing by deer, etc., it is quite likely that the Rhododendrons there may have been completely destroyed or reduced to a few inconspicuous individuals.

Specimens from all stations visited by the authors have been collected and are to be found either in the Herbarium of the University of New Hampshire or that of the New England Botanical Club. — A. R. HODGDON AND R. PIKE, DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY AND DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE, RESPECTIVELY, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DURHAM.

CLAUDE FAVARGER. Flore et vegetat'on des Alps. I. Etage alpin. II. Etage subalpin. 271 & 274 pp., with 32 + 32 planches and 35 + 41 drawings by Paul A. Robert. Delachaux & Niestle S.A., Neuchatel & Paris 1957 & 1958. Price Swiss Fr. 30.00.

FLORA AND VEGETATION OF THE ALPS.[1] — The Alps are among the regions most botanists and all those interested in the vegetation of mountains and northlands want to visit and study, although only a few of those living in distant countries ever get an opportunity to climb the lofty peaks and enjoy the multitude of flowers. The majority has to be content with descriptions by others and they also must study the

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flora by aid of manuals, pictures, and herbarium material only, adding life just through imagination. This is sometimes a little difficult, especially because of the fact that descriptive books by botanists tend to be as dry as are their herbarium plants. Botanists with the ability to write literary works, leaving their interest in details for a more general and descriptive treatise, are as rare in the Alps as they are elsewhere on the globe.

Recently, one of the best botanists of Switzerland, a man with a wide reputation in modern and classical approaches, has given others of his time and knowledge by writing two delightful volumes on the flora and vegetation of the Alps. This reviewer knows few books which unite botanical correctness with literary language to such a high degree. The many nice pictures, in black and white and color, make it easy for the reader to follow the author, Professor Claude Favarger of the University of Neuchâtel, into the field and study with him the variable flora of these best known and most attractive mountains of Europe.

Although both the volumes are intended for the interested layman rather than for the specialist, there is hardly another treatment available which at the same time gives a more scientific approach to the subject. In the first volume, the alpine milieu is described in detail and the terminology explained, at the same time as the reader is informed about the climate and different kinds of soil to be expected. The typical characteristics and biology of alpine plants in general are masterly reviewed before the Alpine flora and the origin of its elements are discussed in another chapter. Thereafter, the fundamentals of the phytosociological approach to studies on vegetation are given, followed by a description of the particular communities of Alpine plants connected with different kinds of high-alpine conditions, from the rocks to the meadows and mires. The descriptions of these associations are based on their quantitative and qualitative floristic composition, and numerous colored pictures and pen-drawings in the text explain the main features of each community. The last part of the first volume reviews the principal families of Alpine plants, with representative examples.

In the second volume, which is devoted to the subalpine regions, the characteristics and limits of this less easily defined zone are discussed, and the transition zones are considered in a concise but very clear chapter. The subalpine zone in the strict meaning of the term is then described in the same detail as were the communities of the alpine zone in the first volume, with a strong emphasis on climax associations and on some pioneering and specialized communities typical of the somewhat more favorable regions. A short chapter on the Jura Mountains and the western Alps completes the descriptions of the vegetation, while the floristic review covers many of the most interesting subalpine

species typical of these parts of the Alps. The volume is completed with a chapter on botanizing in the Alps, in which a plea is made for caution lest rare species be eradicated, and on the protection of the nature of the Alps so that future generations also will be able to enjoy the same beauty observed by present visitors. There is a short bibliography and good indices to both volumes at the end of the second volume.

Although the descriptions in these volumes are based on the flora and vegetation of the Alps, they are of great interest also to those who are concerned with the plants of American mountains, notably those in New England. Naturally, the species are rarely the same, and the communities are also very different and never as colorful here as in the Alps, but the general character of the vegetation is rather similar and its history may also be somewhat comparable in these formerly periglacial mountain complexes.

The delightful volumes by Professor Favarger are a great tribute to the many botanists of the region he treats past and present. The literary abilities of the author and his deep knowledge of the flora and vegetation of his Alps greatly enhance the value of the books. The artist, P. A. Robert, is also worthy of praise, and so is the printer and publisher. The books are to be recommended not only to those interested in mountains in general and the Alps in particular, but also to botanists and botanically minded tourists visiting the Alps. A careful study of the volumes before such a visit will greatly increase its value and also open one's eyes to the many features in botany which nowhere are more distinct and better studied than in the Alps in Switzerland. —

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Potentilla anglica in New York. — For over eight years I have observed in the Bronx and in Brooklyn, New York City, a creeping *Potentilla* that answers to the description of *P. anglica* Laicharding (*P. procumbens* Sibth.). In November, 1956 I observed, but did not collect, the same species in a yard at Great Neck, Nassau County, Long Island. My collections, deposited in the Herbarium of The New York Botanical Garden, are *Monachino s.n.* (6–22–50), formerly the grounds of The New York Botanical Garden, near the Allerton Avenue entrance, June 22, 1950; *s.n.* (10–28–53), (N. Y.), south of the Conservatory, on a lawn near Juniper plantings, at least two major patches, Oct. 28,